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## **Senate urges Supreme Court to uphold ‘under God’ in pledge**

**LANSING** – A resolution urging the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse a lower court decision and uphold the use of “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance was passed today by the Senate, Sen. Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Twp., announced.

The resolution is in response to the San Francisco-based Ninth United States Circuit Court of Appeals deciding not to revisit an earlier decision regarding the unconstitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance.

“For 50 years Americans have pledged their loyalty to the flag and the United States without these two words infringing on their freedom to worship as they choose,” said Birkholz, sponsor of the resolution. “This ruling is in direct conflict with the feelings of Americans around the country. We proudly stand up and recite the pledge, showing our allegiance to our country and two-word reference that dates back to the Declaration of Independence.”

The resolution urges the nation's highest court to act quickly to affirm the status of the Pledge of Allegiance as it has been recited for the past five decades.

In refusing to reconsider the ruling, the Appeals Court has turned down the president's request to rehear the case and has turned away from considering factors that prove the appropriateness of the words “under God” in the pledge.

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